

HOUSE BILL 443

By Moore

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 71,
relative to health care disclosures.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 71, Chapter 1, Part 1, is amended by
adding the following as a new section:

§ 71-1-134.

(a) As used in this section, "proposed beneficiary" means any individual who files an application for benefits of hospital care for himself or herself; or any other individual on whose behalf an application is filed, including, but not limited to, children or other dependents of the applicant or other individual for whom the application is filed.

(b) Any applicant for health care benefits under public programs, including, but not limited to, Medicaid, TennCare, or CoverKids, and any person requesting uncompensated care in a hospital, shall identify the employer or employers of the proposed beneficiary of the health care benefits. If the proposed public health program beneficiary is not employed, the applicant shall identify the employer or employers of any adult who is responsible for providing all or part of the proposed beneficiary's support.

(c) Beginning February 1, 2008, and on or before February 1, of each subsequent year, the department of human services shall transmit a report identifying all employers identified pursuant to the application requirements in subsection (b) who employ twenty-five (25) or more public health program beneficiaries to the senate general welfare, health and human resources committee and the house health and human resources committee. In determining whether the twenty-five (25) employee threshold is met, the department of human services shall include all public health program beneficiaries employed by the employer and its subsidiaries within the state.

The report shall include the following information for each employer and such employers' subsidiaries, if any, that employ public health program beneficiaries:

(1) Name;

(2) Location;

(3) The total number of employees and dependents who are enrolled in each public health care program; and

(4) The total cost to the state of providing public health care benefits for the employees and enrolled dependents of each named employer.

The report shall not include the names of any individual public health care program beneficiary and shall be subject to Public Law 104-191, the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996.

(d) The commissioner of human services shall ensure that the report required by subsection (c) is promptly made available to the public by dissemination via the Internet and that the report is available for members of the public to copy.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.